

1996

• Alabama Traffic Accident Facts •



ALABAMA TRAFFIC ACCIDENT FACTS



1996

Prepared Through The Cooperation Of The Following Agencies

Alabama Department of Transportation

Alabama Department of Public Safety

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs

Alabama Department of Education

**Dedicated to those people in Alabama
working in traffic safety activities.**

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FOB JAMES, JR.
GOVERNOR

STATE OF ALABAMA

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE
MONTGOMERY 36130

To All Alabamians:

As Governor of the State of Alabama, I am pleased to present you with the 1996 edition of Alabama Traffic Accident Facts. The 1995 edition was well received by the public and there was a high demand for its distribution. This book provides a wealth of pertinent and useful information which is suitable for all.

Our safety officials, under the Safety Management System, are doing a tremendous job. We are utilizing the cooperative and collaborative efforts of all to combat the dreadful effects of traffic accidents in our state and nation. The partnership established between governmental agencies, private industry, and our communities have proven effective in reducing the number and severity of traffic accidents in our state.

I urge each of you to promote traffic safety daily by ensuring that all passengers in motor vehicles wear safety belts and obey the rules of the road.

Together, we can make Alabama's highways safer for your benefit and that of our motoring guests.

Sincerely,

Fob James, Jr.
Governor

1996

QUICK FACTS

	The 1996 Toll	1996	vs	1995
Persons Killed	1,142	Up		3 %
Persons Injured	48,161	Up		0 %
Reported Accidents	136,466	Up		2 %
Miles Travelled	51,292,355,000	Up		4 %

There were 1,142 people killed in 1,021 fatal accidents.

One traffic accident was reported every 231 seconds.

One person was injured in a traffic accident each 10 minutes and 56 seconds.

One person was killed every 7 hours and 41 minutes in a traffic accident.

Most Alabama accidents (72.7%) occurred in urban areas, but most fatalities (66.2%) occurred in rural areas.

For each person killed, there were 42.1 injured.

Of all drivers involved in fatal accidents, 11.7% were age 19 or under, and 26.3% were under 25 years of age.

Of all fatal accidents, 47.6% occurred at night.

The 1996 pedestrian death toll was 86.

There were 32 fatalities among motorcycle or moped riders.

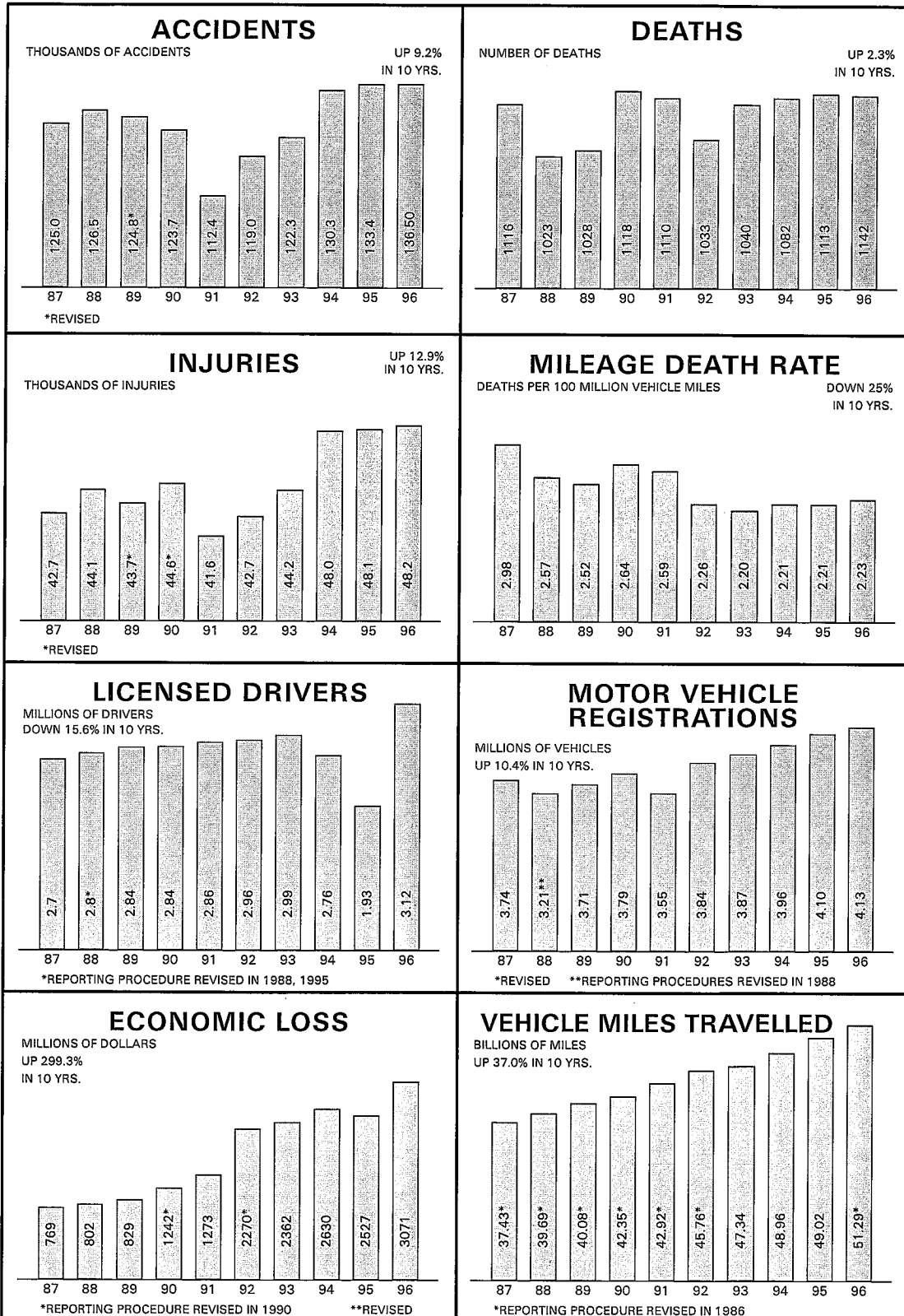
Bicyclists accounted for 6 fatalities.

Only 200 automobile fatalities (19.6%) were wearing seat belts, while the remaining 80.3% were not using safety belts.

If You Are A Typical Driver in Alabama, There Is A 32% Probability That You Will Be Injured Or Killed In An Automobile Accident During Your Lifetime!

TEN YEAR TRAFFIC TRENDS

1987-1996



1996 ALABAMA TRAFFIC ACCIDENT FACTS

TIME TRENDS

TIME OF DAY

	Accidents	%	Deaths	%
Midnight	1,856	1.4	43	3.8
1:00 am	1,599	1.2	43	3.8
2:00 am	1,366	1.0	33	2.9
3:00 am	1,093	0.8	36	3.2
4:00 am	1,007	0.7	26	2.3
5:00 am	1,603	1.2	35	3.1
6:00 am	3,392	2.5	37	3.2
7:00 am	8,869	6.5	35	3.1
8:00 am	5,904	4.3	32	2.8
9:00 am	5,417	4.0	41	3.6
10:00 am	6,174	4.5	33	2.9
11:00 am	7,539	5.5	51	4.5
Noon	9,156	6.7	40	3.5
1:00 pm	8,776	6.4	49	4.3
2:00 pm	9,183	6.7	48	4.2
3:00 pm	13,068	9.6	68	6.0
4:00 pm	11,707	8.6	71	6.2
5:00 pm	11,924	8.7	74	6.5
6:00 pm	7,515	5.5	56	4.9
7:00 pm	5,269	3.9	67	5.9
8:00 pm	4,275	3.1	57	5.0
9:00 pm	3,880	2.8	59	5.2
10:00 pm	3,205	2.3	49	4.3
11:00 pm	2,689	2.0	59	5.2
Total	136,466	100.0	1142	100.0

DAY OF WEEK

	Accidents	%	Deaths	%
Saturday	18,974	13.9	193	16.9
Sunday	12,952	9.5	190	16.6
Monday	20,676	15.2	138	12.1
Tuesday	19,766	14.5	128	11.2
Wednesday	18,712	13.7	119	10.4
Thursday	20,191	14.8	166	14.5
Friday	25,195	18.5	208	18.2
Total	136,466	100.0	1,142	100.0

Be careful not to start your weekend with an accident. The most accident-prone period is late Friday afternoon.

Anytime Is
DEFENSIVE

MONTH OF YEAR

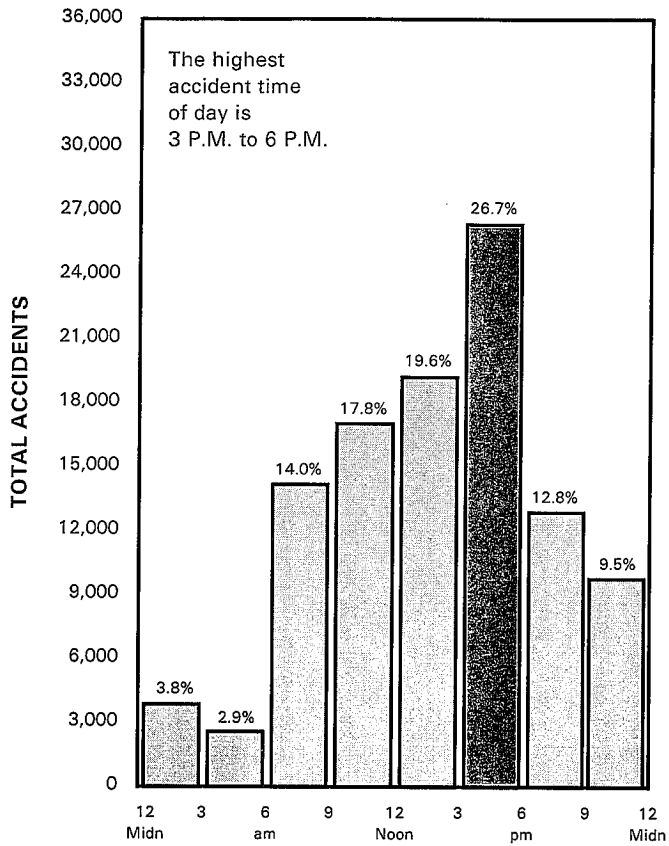
	Accidents	%	Deaths	%
January	11,222	8.2	69	6.0
February	9,781	7.2	89	7.8
March	10,815	7.9	86	7.5
April	11,060	8.1	83	7.3
May	11,365	8.3	96	8.4
June	10,911	8.0	101	8.8
July	11,547	8.5	83	7.3
August	11,638	8.5	100	8.8
September	11,282	8.3	87	7.6
October	12,386	9.1	116	10.2
November	12,051	8.8	133	11.6
December	12,408	9.1	99	8.7
Total	136,466	100.0	1,142	100.0



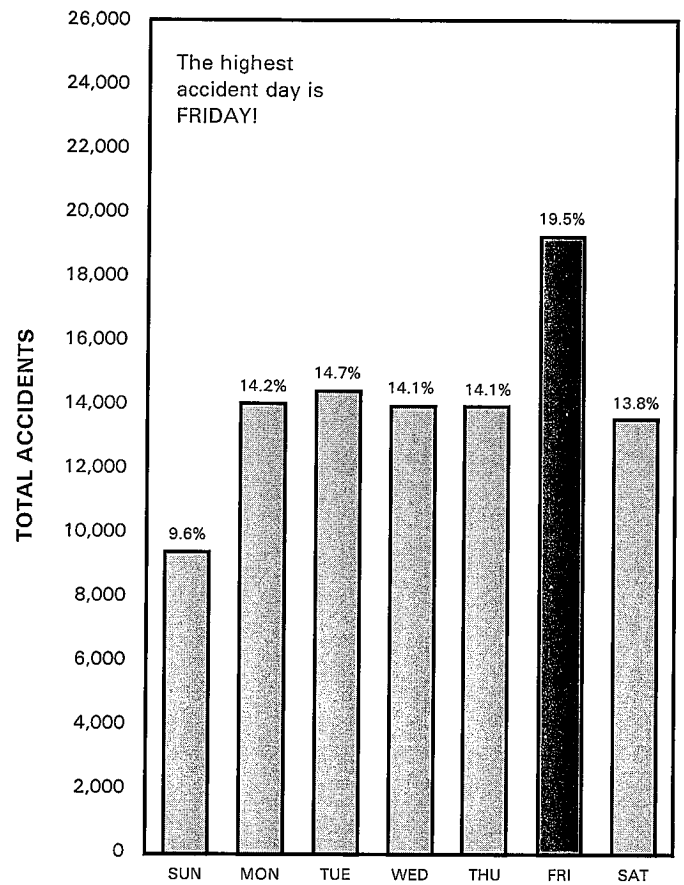
driving time!

TIME TRENDS

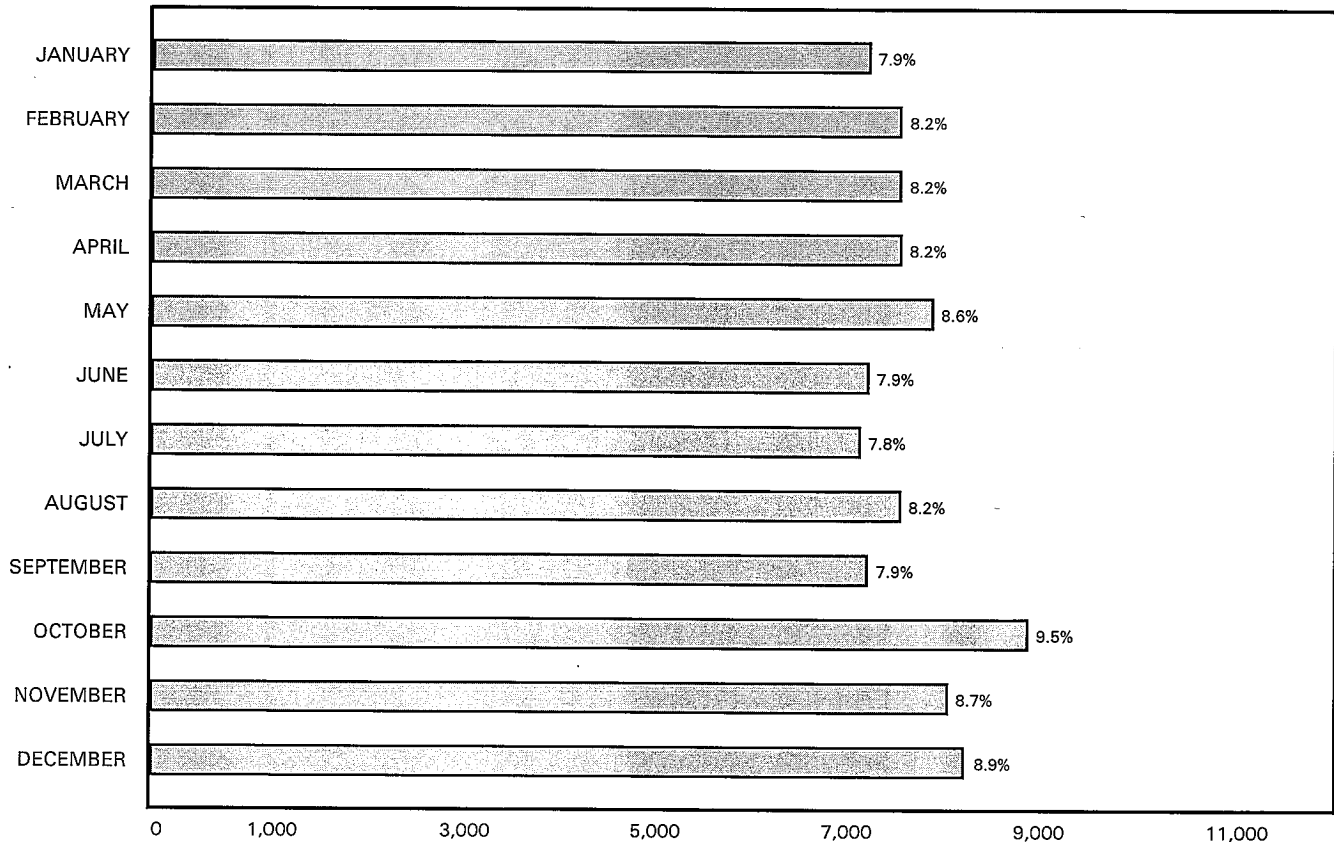
TIME OF DAY



DAY OF WEEK



MONTH OF YEAR



TYPES OF CRASHES

FIRST HARMFUL EVENT

	FATALITIES	INJURIES	ACCIDENTS	% OF ACCIDENTS
HIT OTHER VEHICLE	507	33,553	100,866	73.9
HIT FIXED OR OTHER OBJECT	292	6,647	15,038	11.0
OVERTURNING	91	1,821	2,466	1.8
OTHER NON-COLLISION	8	218	1,412	1.0
HIT ANIMAL	6	290	2,690	2.0
HIT PEDESTRIAN	78	637	715	0.5
HIT PEDALCYCLIST	5	227	266	0.2
HIT RAILWAY TRAIN	15	65	123	0.1
HIT PARKED VEHICLE	10	467	4,467	3.3
ALL OTHER	130	4,236	8,423	6.2
TOTAL	1,142	48,161	136,466	100.00

TYPES OF VEHICLES

	Vehicles Involved In Accidents	% of Vehicles
AUTO	165,261	65.6
PICK-UP	59,220	23.5
VAN	13,418	5.3
TRUCK	10,194	4.0
MOTORCYCLE/ MOPED	867	0.3
OTHER	2,934	1.2
TOTAL	251,894	100.0

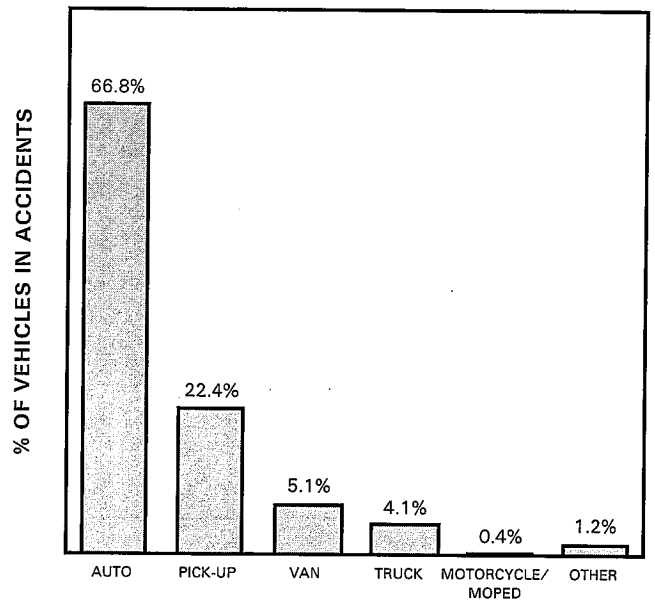
HAZARDOUS CARGO

	ACCIDENTS	%
EXPLOSIVE	11	3.3
GAS/FLAMMABLE	276	82.9
POISON	40	12.0
RADIOACTIVE	6	1.8
TOTAL	333	100.0

The typical Alabama traffic accident occurs between two autos when one of the drivers fails to yield the RIGHT OF WAY.

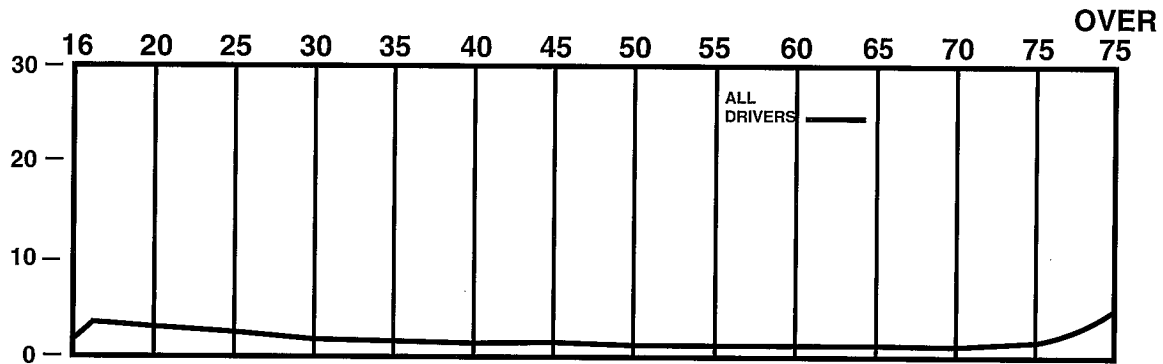


VEHICLE TYPE

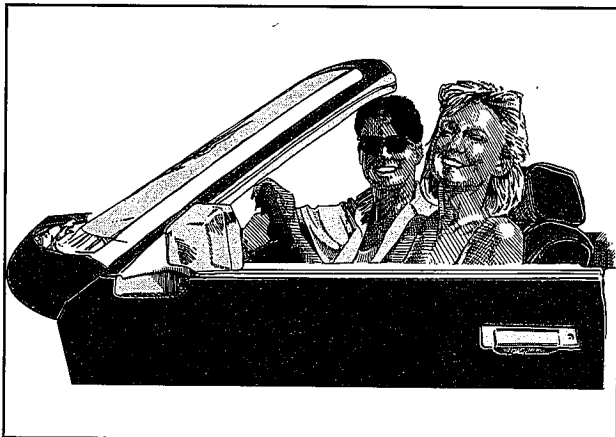
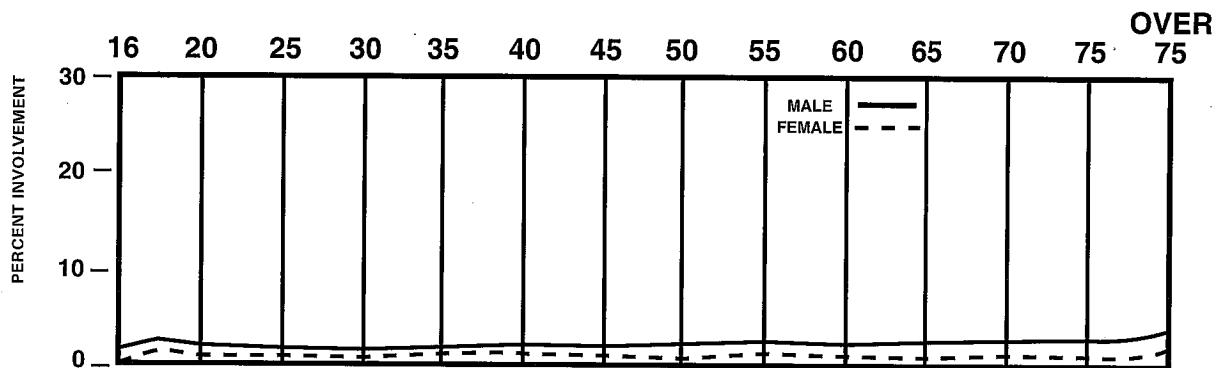


INVOLVEMENT BY AGE AND SEX

PERCENTAGES OF DRIVERS INVOLVED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS AT EACH AGE



PERCENTAGES OF DRIVERS INVOLVED IN TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS AT EACH AGE GROUP AND SEX



Age	Persons Killed	Age	Persons Killed	Age	Persons Killed
1	1	16	25	(35-39)	107
2	6	17	33	(40-44)	84
3	4	18	31	(45-49)	63
4	6	19	36	(50-54)	50
(1-4)	17	(15-19)	133	(55-59)	51
5	4	20	36	(60-64)	43
6	7	21	29	(65-69)	36
7	5	22	37	(70-74)	51
8	1	23	27	75-Over	78
9	1	24	27	Not Listed	10
(5-9)	18	(20-24)	156		
10	1	25	32		
11	2	26	23		
12	1	27	16		
13	7	28	20		
14	3	29	22		
(10-14)	14	(25-29)	113		
15	8	(30-34)	118		